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IDEA 2876-66

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Programs Staff

SUBJECT: IDEALIST Operational Summary
and Status (January 1966)

REFERENCE: Memorandum from D/EA to D/YA/OSA
and D/TECH; dated 26 May 1965;
Subject: OSA Monthly Report to
DS/SST and Program B Quarterly
Review Report to the D/NRO

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Attached is the IDEALIST Operational Summary and
Status report for the month of January 1966.

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Deputy for Field Activities, OSA

Attachment - 1
As stated above

C/IDEA/OSA/ [] aca (2 Feb 66)

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Attachment 1

IDEALIST

OPERATIONAL SUMMARY AND STATUS

I. General Summary

A. There were no Agency U-2 overflights during the month of January.

B. On 19 January 1968, U-2G number 381 was loaned to the 4080th SEW (SAC) and departed from Edwards AFB on the same date enroute to [redacted] Article 385 was returned to Lockheed on 11 January for periodic inspection, accomplishment of outstanding service bulletins, and repainting in preparation for its deployment to SAC OL-20 at [redacted] now scheduled for 7 February. Both aircraft will be used by SAC for reconnaissance operations in SEASIA until they can be replaced by SAC U-2 aircraft now undergoing conversion at Lockheed to the J-75 configuration.

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C. Primarily because of the loan of two aircraft, Detachment "G" was unable to generate sufficient flying hours to maintain a high state of operational readiness for all assigned mission pilots. Available flying hours were devoted to maintaining maximum operational readiness for only three pilots. Until additional aircraft and flying hours are available, Detachment "G" will have the capability for deployment to, and operation from, only one overseas location.

D. Unfavorable weather over South Vietnam prevented the accomplishment of a flight test of color film. When good weather prevails the test will be flown by an Agency pilot on a round-robin mission from [redacted] The Delta III camera system will be utilized for the test, with black and white film loaded in the forward camera and

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color film in the aft camera. The exposed film will be couriered to Rochester, New York for processing by Eastman Kodak and film evaluation will be accomplished by NPIC.

II. Product Improvement

A. Testing of AT-400 HF Radio equipment was continued through this period. On 10 January 1966, the short range reception tested out "marginal" and required that additional ground adjustments and testing be performed. During 11 January high altitude flight tests, the initial HF transmissions proved loud and clear. After changing frequencies, however, the 490T tuner failed to tune up to desired loads. Majority of problems were subsequently resolved, however, additional testing and evaluations will continue on this equipment.

B. Autopilot fault monitors were successfully flight tested by Lockheed. Four prototype monitors were built and assigned to the [] Detachment. Further negotiations are being taken with the vendor to establish firm prices and delivery schedules on these items.

C. As a result of fuel flow problems in the Articles, Lockheed was authorized to incorporate a solenoid operated fuel shut-off valve in the main wing tank fuel transfer line on C and G models and in both the main and auxiliary tank fuel transfer lines in the F models. Purpose of the valve is to eliminate fuel transfer when the transfer pump is not operating.

D. "Product Improvement" progress, in general, was satisfactory, recognizing that Lockheed plant efforts were diverted through most of January on high priority tasks associated with preparation of Articles 381 and 385 for transfer to SAC elements at OL-20.

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